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# Province hedges on new-school pledges



Premier Jim Prentice spoke to reporters after meeting with his caucus Wednesday. Prentice said while everyone will have to make sacrifices for the coming budget, the province also has to keep up with the demand for new schools. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

**Education.** Minister says some schools may come 'a bit later'



JEREMY  
NOLA  
Metro in Calgary

Alberta's infrastructure boss is warning a past promise to pony up the necessary funds in 2015 to keep construction of 55 new schools on track may miss the mark.

Not two months ago—Dec. 2 to be exact—Infrastructure Minister Manmeet Bhullar said funds would “absolutely” be provided in 2015 to keep the buildings on track to open no later than September 2018.

His comments came after a claim by the Calgary Board of Education that it would need nearly \$197 million by mid-year to have eight new schools and two modernization projects ready on time.

Bhullar said at the time that “the premier has been incredibly clear—these schools will be built. They’ll be built within the time frame, simple as that.”

Fast-forward to a followup interview this week in which Bhullar said it would be “premature” to comment on the status of each school pledged

by Prentice in the \$2-billion package rolled out during a byelection campaign the premier himself was involved in.

“I think things will be moving forward on a case-by-case basis, addressing highest-need areas,” Bhullar said. “Some of the projects in areas where the growth is anticipated over a number of years might be projects that take place a bit later.”

“The intention is still to build the schools in the shortest period of time, in the most fiscally prudent manner,” Bhullar added.

## Surging demand

# 42

The CBE said it may be forced to host enrolment lotteries at 42 schools ahead of the 2015-16 year as student demand surged far beyond the capacity of available facilities.

NDP education critic Deron Bilous pointed to reports of students being taught on gym stages and in staff rooms as an indication of a long history of broken Tory promises when it comes to school infrastructure.

“School boards are beyond capacity,” Bilous said. “The point of this isn’t just to have a desk for Johnny or Suzy—this

is directly affecting the quality of education that students are getting.... It’s going to have a serious impact on the future of Alberta because this affects the quality of education of future generations.”

Edmonton’s Catholic school board chairwoman Debbie Engel said the district needs every facility that’s been promised, especially considering current utilization rates.

“In the last 14 years, we have gone from a 68 per cent utilization rate to 82, which is high utilization,” she said.

Engel said this is the first year she remembers where schools aren’t being suggested for possible closure thanks to the “population explosion” experienced throughout Edmonton.

Bhullar, meanwhile, suggested that construction prices for new schools may actually decline as the Alberta economy slows.

“We will build the infrastructure and the schools that are needed for our children, absolutely we will,” the minister insisted. “But we’ll do it all in a way that addresses the most pressing needs sooner and in a way that allows us to save the most amount of money, so that we can really stretch every dollar out as much as possible.”

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## GSAs. Panel aims to offer advice for legislation

Community leaders, advocates, politicians and students will be putting their heads together Thursday night in hopes of coming up with recommendations for the government on the future of gay-straight alliances in the province.

Organized by the Rocky Mountain Civil Liberties Association, the panel discussion will offer presenters the chance to share their perspective on Bill 10 and Bill 202, said speaker Kelly Ernst, who said, through the conversations, he hopes the group will be able to give a set of recommendations for the new legislation.

"What we're not doing is presupposing what the final result will be," Ernst said. "We're seeking people's advice into what the legislation should look like."

A similar event was held in Calgary Tuesday and included students who've set up GSAs.

"What we learned from that was there's a lot of support for GSAs. We learned lots of the impact GSAs have on schools," Ernst said. "We heard of people that literally their lives were saved because of the GSAs, because they finally had a safe place to go."

"Those types of presentations are really powerful."

Thursday night's event, which kicks off at 4 p.m. at MacEwan University, will also include NDP MLA Deron Bilous, University of Alberta assistant professor Kris Wells and Liberal MLA Laurie Blakeman.

On Saturday, another event co-hosted by the Pride Centre of Edmonton will also be spotlighting GSAs, but will be less formal, said executive director Mickey Wilson.

LEAH HOLODAY/METRO



E.J. Burrows, from left, Connor Burns and Andrew Pohlmann, of Calgary firm Skymatics, operate their drone, which took to the skies to document the Walterdale Bridge and downtown arena construction sites. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

# Drone flight takes to Edmonton skies

**The future.** Skymatics co-owner says that commercial demand for the craft is on the rise



RYAN TUMILTY  
ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

It was neither a bird nor a plane, but it did take to the skies Wednesday to document some major Edmonton projects.

The first flight of a commercial drone in the city flew over the downtown arena and the

new Walterdale Bridge, as design firm Dialog wanted a new way to document the two projects they're working on.

"Especially with our large-scale projects, it's really hard to capture them with still photography, even aerial photography," said Krissy Schmidt, the company's spokeswoman.

She said they're going to return later in the construction process and use all the footage in presentations for future clients.

"We will come back later and do the full shot and then basically string the one or more years of work we have done," she said. "It helps tell the story

of the project."

Connor Burns, co-owner of Skymatics, a Calgary firm that came up to Edmonton to do the work, said commercial demand for drones is on the rise.

"We're constantly getting more and more inquiries, and when summer comes around we expect to be full-time with four or five people," he said.

Burns said getting the necessary permissions for this first commercial flight wasn't easy, but they're excited to be part of a big next step for the industry.

"It took us about three months and I think we went through about 80 pages of paperwork," he said.

### Up in the air

While operating over the arena project, the company had to keep their drone above the five cranes on site, but below the Transport Canada ceiling of 400 feet.

- The drone is capable of recording video as well as transmitting back to the operator in real time.
- Edmonton Police operate a drone that takes aerial photos of accident scenes to help investigations.

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# Uber drivers to stay on the road

**Petition.** Company says taking its drivers off the roads would be unfair and will harm 'livelihoods of hundreds'



**RYAN TUMILTY**  
ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

It appears Edmonton has its answer from Uber.

Last week, city councillors asked the company to voluntarily pull their drivers off the road while the city drafts new regulations that would accommodate the ride-share company.

Wednesday morning, the company launched an online petition asking Edmontonians to tell city council to rescind this request.

Company officials were unavailable before press time, but the petition said taking drivers off the road would be unfair.

"This move to block new transportation alternatives like Uber will rewind the

## Quoted

"We were hopeful that they wouldn't break our existing laws while we did the work, expending city resources to create laws that are helpful to them. So, it's kind of just irritating."

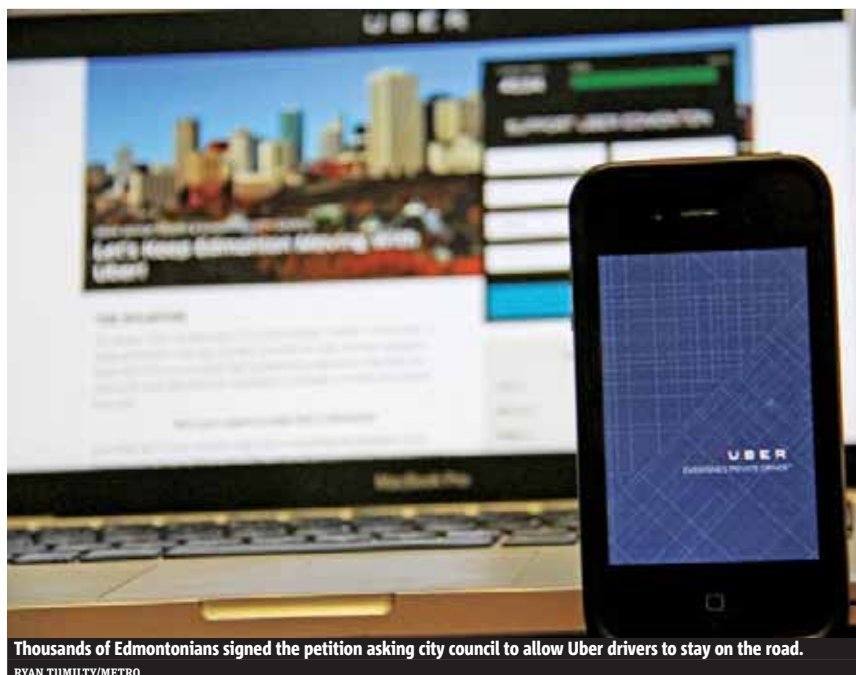
Coun. Michael Walters, on Uber's response to city council's request that the company pull its drivers from Edmonton's roads

clock and harm the livelihoods of hundreds of drivers who partner with Uber," reads the petition.

City council's motion said that the city would seek an injunction against the firm if they don't voluntarily cease operations.

In their petition, the company argues that would only serve the taxi industry.

"Ordering Uber to shut down now serves no one except taxicab owners who have relentlessly lobbied to sideline new competition," it reads.



Thousands of Edmontonians signed the petition asking city council to allow Uber drivers to stay on the road.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Coun. Michael Walters said Uber's response to the city's olive branch was dis-

appointing.

"We were hopeful that they wouldn't break our

existing laws while we did the work, expending city resources to create laws that

are helpful to them. So, it's kind of just irritating," he said.

Walters said that, in contrast to other Canadian cities that closed the door on the company, Edmonton has been willing to work with them, so this doesn't seem like a strategic response.

He said this doesn't mean the city will stop working on ride-sharing regulations, but Uber's response is unfortunate.

"We can continue to move toward creating the space for them, for any number of companies," he said.

In a statement, city staff said they would pursue the injunction against the company, as city council requested, unless they come off the road voluntary.

"The city is asking Uber to voluntarily suspend operations in Edmonton while discussions around bylaw amendments get underway. An injunction will be sought if Uber refuses this request," said Garry Dziwenka, director of licensing.

## High demand keeps Uber driving in U.S. cities



Edmonton cabbies protested Uber's arrival in Edmonton, much as their counterparts in U.S. cities have, but cities that embraced ride-sharing firms say they were forced to because tech-savvy consumers wanted the service. METRO FILE

Cities who are working with ride-share companies like Uber said that ultimately they had no choice because their citizens were calling for it.

Seattle is one of several North American cities that have changed their rules to allow for Uber and other firms to operate.

Seattle Council member Sally Clark said the city couldn't turn its back on a technology company like this.

"We're the place where Amazon lives. We're the place where the Gates foundation

lives, Microsoft is across the lake and we have got a pretty strong group of folks who are living through their smartphone," she said.

The city passed new regulations last year that require Uber drivers be licensed similarly to cab drivers, but there's no cap on the number of plates. Clark said that generally they're trying to strip away barriers.

"We're doing a complete top-to-bottom review of the level of inspection we're requiring of taxis, because over

the last couple of decades, we've layered on a lot of rules," she said.

Sally Everett, with the City of St. Petersburg, Fla., said they're just starting down a path of new regulations but ultimately they have to accept the change.

"Our mayor in St. Petersburg really directed the staff to work to make it work," she said. "It's what our citizens want. We're a community that has attracted many young people."

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



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# Cycling collision data shines light on city's problem areas

**Safety.** Whyte Avenue, 100 Street among collision hot spots



**STEPHANIE DUBOIS**  
stephanie.dubois@metronews.ca

If you're a male and around 37 years old, the odds are not in your favour when it comes to cycling collisions, according to data released from the city.

The data from 2009-2014 shows the bulk of cyclist collisions involved men (718) when compared to women (387) and that the median age involved was just slightly higher than the city's median age of about 35.

Matthew Dance, an Edmontonian who requested the info from the city's transportation department, wanted to look into numbers that are partially behind the decisions the city makes as to where bike lanes should go, but instead found what he considers "not great data."

"The initial problem is (the data is) not recorded with GPS,

## Quoted

**"There's a broader portion of citizens who need to make a leap into open data."**

Matthew Dance, Edmontonian who requested data from city

but is recorded with the nearest cross street, so it's hard to tell exactly where these collisions happened," he said.

Dance added that the data-set shouldn't be completely discredited when it comes to bike network planning.

"I think this is just one piece of the puzzle."

Local cycling advocates agree.

The data does shed some light onto problem areas in the city for cyclists, with Whyte Avenue, 100 Street near 102A Avenue and the intersection at 156 Street and Stony Plain Road the most concentrated when plotted onto a heat map of the reported incidents.

This comes a day after Edmonton Police and Old Strath-



An Edmonton police officer surveys the scene where a cyclist was killed on May 22, 2014. Data from the city shows that over the last five years, men were involved in collisions more frequently than women. CONTRIBUTED

cona Business Association reps warned Edmontonians about collisions on Whyte Avenue.

Conrad Nobert with the Edmonton Bike Coalition said the data and recent police an-

nouncements further prove the need to keep cyclists safe.

"Most of the problem intersections are in central Edmonton and unfortunately infrastructure hasn't caught up," said Nobert.

Some of the problem areas will be addressed once the 102 Avenue and 83 Avenue bike lanes are on the road, said Christopher Chan, with the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters' Society, but some still

need attention.

"These are not at all surprising areas. They're where cyclists end up ... and it's the way the intersections are designed that there's a potential for conflict," he said.

## Cycling data doesn't show whole picture: Advocates

Recent cyclist collision data provided by the City of Edmonton tells a story of a need for proper bike infrastructure for some cyclists but for others, there's also a corresponding need for worthy data.

On average in the past

five years, just under 200 cyclist collisions have been reported each year, with 2009 seeing the highest number of collisions, with 220 cyclist wrecks reported to police.

But flaws with the data, like lack of exact location,

who was at fault and other missing factors, are not provided, which hinders decision makers and bikers from having complete information, according to cycling advocates.

"We really need better data collection and more de-

tailed data to be able to really improve safety for everyone on the road. Technology is really going to help with that because taking GPS co-ordinates shouldn't be that difficult," said Christopher Chan, with the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters' Soci-

ety, adding that the current method of data collection biases against cyclists overall.

International urban design experts agree. Mikael Colville-Andersen, with Copenhagenize Design Company, said Wednesday that

in order to change the car culture in Edmonton, complete information will help the public get a better idea of who is riding in the city.

"Data is so important," he said at the Winter Cities Shake-up conference.

STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

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## Politics. Coun. Sohi will seek Liberal nomination

City Coun. Amarjeet Sohi is looking to take his political career to Ottawa.

After weeks of rumours, Sohi officially announced he would seek the federal Liberal party's nomination in Edmonton-Mill Woods.

Sohi said the federal Conservatives have taken Edmonton for granted and he wants to be a voice for the city.

"Since 2006, it has been a one-way conversation from Prime Minister Harper to Edmonton. No one has been listening to our needs," he said.



Coun. Amarjeet Sohi METRO

Sohi said if he wins the nomination he will ask for an unpaid leave from council during the election period and would resign if elected. METRO

### Tofield

## Mounties not at fault in shooting

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says no charges will be laid against any of the officers involved in the shooting near Tofield last January where an officer was shot while another was hit by a vehicle. METRO

### Correction

In the Jan. 28 edition of Metro, a story stated that the province's online portal for campsite bookings would go live Feb. 8 and it served 14,000 campsites. In fact, the site ReserveAlbertaParks.ca will go live Feb. 9 and serve 6,000 of the province's 14,000 campsites.

Metro regrets the error.

# Interest in urban farms on the rise in Edmonton



Novella Carpenter turned a derelict backyard in Oakland, Calif., into a miniature farm with vegetables, fruit trees and animals. CONTRIBUTED

**Food.** California expert to speak at University of Alberta

LUCY HAINES  
edmonton@metronews.ca

As the city wraps up pilot projects in beekeeping and urban hens, the U of A's Faculty of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES) continues to examine urban agriculture in Edmonton.

This Thursday, ALES welcomes renowned urban farmer and speaker Novella Carpenter who, a decade ago, turned an inner-city backyard in Oakland, Calif., into a miniature farm with vegetables, turkeys, chickens, ducks, pigs and goats.

"It's wonderful to hear from citizen scientists who more or less wing it — see what works and what doesn't, and write or blog about it," said Debra

### Quoted

"There's a misconception of what and where we can grow in Edmonton."

U of A prof. Debra Davidson

Davidson, professor in the ALES faculty. "Novella is a great example of that amazing open-sourced knowledge on urban agriculture."

"It's the movement of my generation," said Carpenter, whose yard now fields chickens, bees and a fruit orchard. "I use recycled cardboard for mulching, used coffee grounds from my neighbourhood café for the soil and stale bakery bread to feed the animals."

Davidson said interest in urban farming has exploded in Edmonton in the last 10 years, with neighbourhood plots and community gardens for themselves, food banks and local restaurants.

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Many of the 200 rescued animals from the Milk River property were suffering from starvation and wounds. Some were also forced to cope with broken bones. COURTESY ALBERTA ANIMAL RESCUE CREW SOCIETY

## SPCA looks into huge pet cruelty case

**Animal abuse.** More than 200 dogs were rescued from property near Milk River



JEREMY NOLAÏS  
Metro in Calgary

A team of organizations has rescued more than 200 neglected pups from a property in the province's deep south, marking what the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) says may be the largest seizure of dogs its history.

According to the SPCA, 60 dogs were first discovered on a rural site near Milk River on Dec. 23 by an investigator responding to a check on welfare call.

The SPCA then obtained a warrant to search the property Jan. 13 and found an additional 141 dogs hiding under various trailers and outbuildings on the property.

The dogs were malnourished, dehydrated, and lacking proper winter shelter, the SPCA said.

Among the groups now attempting to find homes for the animals is the Calgary-based Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society (AARCS).

Executive director Deanna

### Animal rescue efforts

Those wishing to offer assistance in caring for the dogs are urged to visit [aarcs.ca](http://aarcs.ca).

Thompson said a number of the animals were suffering with wounds — one had a broken leg, another had a broken jaw.

"I would assume from likely trying to fight for what little food they had," Thompson speculated in an interview Wednesday.

So far, AARCS has taken in 60 of the neglected dogs, which are a mixture of huskies, Irish wolfhounds, malamutes and komondors.

The animals' hair is "extremely matted" to the point that they've had to be shaved nearly bald, Thompson said.

The SPCA has confirmed this is the largest seizure of dogs in its history.

The organization is continuing to investigate, but it wasn't immediately clear if charges would be laid.

"At a minimum, the owner would be required to pay for the costs associated with removing and boarding the dogs and providing veterinary treatments," spokesman Roland Lines said in a release.

## Cycling, pedestrians and public transit are the keys to city-building: Experts

Good urban design is the key to having great bike infrastructure in a city, including Edmonton, according to Mikael Colville-Andersen, the "Justin Bieber of cycling."

Thinking less on how to make roads and cities geared toward vehicles and more toward cycling, pedestrians and public transit is key to de-

veloping a great city.

The urban design expert and CEO of Copenhagenize Design said by focusing on what he calls "desire lines," trails left by cyclists using their environment, is one way city planners can give citizens what they want.

"Modern cities watch, listen and act upon desire lines," he

told the crowd Wednesday at the Winter Cities Shake-Up conference. "Make the bike the fastest way from A to B and people will do it."

Listing other international cities and Canadian cities like Winnipeg and Montreal as prime examples of cyclist ridership growth, he said Edmonton could learn by taking notes.

"We're still under the impression today that streets are for cars," he said.

The Fort McMurray born design expert added that Edmonton's key to success in developing a stronger bike culture is all about collecting proper data on cyclists, something other cities have been doing for years. **STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO**



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## Positive E. coli test prompts boil-water advisory for Winnipeg

Winnipeg shoppers were greeted with empty shelves Tuesday, when Winnipeg authorities issued a boil-water advisory after an E.coli-positive test. The latest tests on the city's water supply have come back clean, but it could be another day before the city's 700,000 residents can safely drink their water without boiling it. Mayor Brian Bowman says a second round of testing won't be completed until Thursday afternoon. Bowman says it's up to the province to lift the boil-water advisory. The medical officer of health for the Winnipeg region says guidelines require two rounds of clean tests before that can happen. The city says it believes the original samples were false positives.

PHOTO: JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS  
TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

# CSE stands by its role in Internet hunt for terrorists

**Spy agency.** Document says CSE analysts can access information on 10 to 15 million downloads from free sites each day

Canada's electronic spy agency is defending its role in the search for extremists following a report that says it sifts through millions of videos and documents downloaded globally every day through file-sharing services.

Details of the Communications Security Establishment project, called Levitation, are revealed in a 2012 PowerPoint presentation obtained by former U.S. intelligence contractor Edward Snowden,

CBC News says.

CBC analyzed the document with U.S. news website The Intercept, which obtained it from Snowden. It also posted the presentation online, with some of the information blacked out. The Ottawa-based CSE employs mathematicians, codebreakers, linguists and software experts, with the aim of both collecting foreign secrets and shielding Canada's confidences from prying eyes.

The document says that under Levitation, CSE analysts can access information on about 10 to 15 million uploads and downloads of files from free websites each day.

Extremists generally use free file-uploading sites to distribute training materials, while al-Qaida uses them to spread jihadist propaganda, the document says. It notes CSE finds about

350 "interesting download events" per month, citing one on how to make a gas bomb.

One privacy advocate expressed alarm at the CBC report.

"CSE is clearly spying on the private online activities of millions of innocent people, including Canadians, despite repeated government assurances to the contrary," said OpenMedia.ca spokesman David Christopher.

"Law-abiding Internet users who use popular file-hosting services are now finding themselves under the government's microscope."

CSE stood by its methods, saying they have helped counter terrorism.

"CSE's foreign signals intelligence has played a vital role in uncovering foreign-based extremists' efforts to attract, radicalize, and train individuals to carry out attacks in Canada

### Metadata

CSE said that the agency is authorized to collect and analyze metadata — data trails about messages and calls, not the actual content.

- Privacy advocates have stressed that metadata is not innocuous, as it can reveal much about a person's online behaviour.
- CSE said it takes strict measures to protect the privacy of Canadians when it comes across their information.

and abroad," agency spokesman Ryan Foreman said in an emailed statement Wednesday.  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cyberbullying victim Amanda Todd committed suicide in 2012 THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Amanda's alleged bully denies claim

**Aydin Coban.** Man in Dutch prison for child pornography offence writes letter saying he is not the 'tormentor'

The man accused in the cyberbullying case of British Columbia teen Amanda Todd has denied the allegations against him in a letter released by his lawyer.

Aydin Coban was arrested in the Netherlands last year. He is suspected of possessing child pornography and blackmailing and harassing victims over the Internet with naked images of themselves.

In a letter that his lawyer confirmed was written by his client, Coban says he is innocent and not "the so-called tormentor" of Todd

— or anyone else.

Todd, who was sexually exploited online, died by suicide in October 2012. Her story garnered international attention after a YouTube video surfaced in which the teen held up handwritten signs detailing what happened to her.

The letter from Coban is written in English and says he's been in jail for a year but hasn't been charged in connection with the Todd case. The letter says that despite that, the worldwide media has branded him the monster behind it.

Coban's lawyer, Christian van Dijk, confirmed the letter was written by his client and says Coban, who also faces charges in Canada, only plans to speak to the judges in his case because the police changed his words in a bad way.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$700,000

## Harper defends costly veteran case

The federal government has so far spent nearly \$700,000 fighting a disgruntled group of wounded Afghan veterans in court—a revelation that on Wednesday rekindled a political controversy the Conservatives had hoped was behind them.

During question period, Prime Minister Stephen Har-

per tried to cast the ongoing court battle as the legacy of a flawed policy that was foisted on Parliament nine years ago by Paul Martin's Liberal government. "The government is defending a decision of the previous government, supported by all parties in the House of Commons," Harper said, referring to the new veterans charter, which the Conservatives have championed since coming to office in 2006. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Privacy

## Watchdog's anti-terror law concern

Canada's privacy watchdog is expressing early concerns about information sharing provisions expected in the Conservatives' new anti-terror laws, as Prime Minister Stephen Harper meets with Toronto police chiefs to win support for the new measures.

Daniel Therrien said he's been briefed on the govern-

ment's new anti-terror bill, to be tabled in Parliament on Friday, and will be closely watching the wording of provisions aimed at increasing information sharing among government agencies.

"Information sharing regarding whom? Regarding people who are suspected of terrorist activities, or the sharing of information about other Canadians who are not suspected of anything," Therrien said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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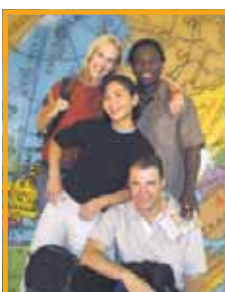
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# Jordan offers prisoner swap

**ISIL hostages.** Lives of Jordanian pilot and Japanese journalist threatened if would-be bomber not freed

Jordan offered a precedent-setting prisoner swap to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) on Wednesday in a desperate attempt to save a Jordanian air-force pilot the militants purportedly threatened to kill along with a Japanese hostage.

Meeting ISIL's demand for the release of a would-be hotel bomber linked to al-Qaida would run counter to the kingdom's hard-line approach to the extremists, but the government faces growing domestic pressure to bring the pilot home.

Efforts to release the pilot, Lt. Mu'ath al-Kaseasbeh, and Japanese journalist Kenji Goto gained urgency with the release late Tuesday of a purported on-line ultimatum claiming ISIL would kill both hostages within 24 hours if the al-Qaida-linked prisoner was not freed.



By Wednesday evening, there was no word on the fate of the hostages and no sign that a swap was underway. In a possible indication of a holdup, Jordan's foreign minister wrote on his Twitter account that Jordan had not received evidence the pilot was alive and healthy.

The scope of a possible swap and of ISIL's demands also remained unclear. Jordanian government spokesman Mohammed al-Momani said Jordan is ready to trade the prisoner, an

Iraqi woman convicted of involvement in deadly Amman hotel bombings in 2005, for the pilot. Al-Momani made no mention of Goto, and it was not clear if the swap proposed by Jordan would satisfy the hostage-takers. Any exchange would set a precedent for negotiating with ISIL, who in the past have not publicly demanded prisoner releases. Jordan's main ally, the United States, opposes negotiations with extremists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Missiles. Hezbollah hits Israeli convoy, kills 2

Missiles fired by the Lebanese Hezbollah group struck an Israeli military convoy on Wednesday, killing two soldiers in an apparent retaliation for a deadly airstrike attributed to Israel that killed six Hezbollah fighters in Syria earlier this month.

It was the deadliest Hezbollah attack against Israeli forces since a 2006 war between the two sides.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel would respond "forcefully" to the attack. The military launched aerial and ground assaults on Hezbollah positions, including at least 50 artillery shells, according to Lebanese officials.

A Spanish peacekeeper was killed in the border flare-up in southern Lebanon.

In a statement, Hezbollah said its fighters destroyed a number of Israeli vehicles that were carry-

ing Israeli officers and soldiers and caused casualties among "enemy ranks." The soldiers' ranks were not immediately known.

Hezbollah said the attack was carried out by a group calling itself the "righteous martyrs of Quneitra," suggesting it was in retaliation for an Israeli airstrike on the Golan Heights on Jan. 18 that killed six Hezbollah fighters and an Iranian general.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Israeli soldiers treat a wounded soldier near the Israel-Lebanon border Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Nigeria

## Islamic extremists attack villages, abduct people

Islamic extremists are rampaging through villages in northeastern Nigeria, killing, burning and looting with no troops protecting civilians, said fleeing villagers on Wednesday.

More than 40 people have been killed in seven villages in Adamawa state this week, according to resident Emmanuel Kwache.

"They slaughtered people like rams and they burned down our houses after looting food," Kwache said. "There's no presence of troops. Some residents are hiding on top of hills, while those that could not run were abducted, particularly youths and women."

State legislator Adamu Kamale said he has appealed in vain for troops since the attacks began on Friday. On Monday the militants moved into Michika town, he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





In this 1989 photo, Tommy Thompson holds a \$50 pioneer gold piece retrieved from the wreck of the gold ship Central America. According to the U.S. Marshals Service, Thompson, a fugitive treasure hunter wanted for more than two years, has been arrested in Florida. LON HORWEDEL/THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Elusive gold hunter caught

**Shipwreck.** Man went into hiding after investors sought their share of \$50M haul

A treasure hunter locked in a legal battle over one of the greatest undersea hauls in American history has been arrested in Florida after more than two years on the lam, authorities said Wednesday.

The U.S. Marshals Service tracked Tommy Thompson to a hotel in Palm Beach County and arrested him Tuesday, said Brian Babbist, a senior inspector in the agency's office in Columbus, Ohio.

Thompson made history in 1988 when he found the sunken S.S. Central America. Thompson and his crew

brought up thousands of gold bars and coins from the shipwreck. Much of that was later sold to a gold marketing group in 2000 for about \$50 million.

The 161 investors who paid Thompson \$12.7 million to find the ship never saw returns from the sale.

Gil Kirk, a former director of one of Thompson's companies, said last year that Thompson never cheated anyone. Kirk said proceeds from the 2000 sale of the gold all went to legal fees and bank loans.

"He was a genius, and they've stolen his life," Kirk said of those who sued.

Thompson went into seclusion in 2006, moving into a mansion in Vero Beach, Fla. Six years later, after the arrest warrant was issued, Thompson vanished.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Florida. Cat digs himself out of shallow grave

Bart the cat was hit by a car, buried and crawled back from the dead.

A car hit the 1-1/2-year-old cat in Tampa, Fla. Five days later, on Jan. 21, a ragged Bart emerged from his shallow grave. Bart was de-

hydrated and hungry, had a broken jaw, a ruptured eye and a torn-up face — but it was alive.

The cat underwent surgery on Tuesday and is expected to recover in about six weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Not Australia

## Kangaroo on the lam in Austria

A kangaroo is on the loose in frigid and snowy Austria, hopping his way toward dispelling a famous slogan.

"No kangaroos in Austria" T-shirts and souvenirs have been big sellers for years in the alpine nation, since some people confuse Austria with Australia.

Anton the kangaroo

bounded away from his owner several weeks ago and has been living rough ever since, disappearing into forested land every time someone tries to capture him.

State-run broadcaster ORF posted a photo of the Australian marsupial on Wednesday sitting in a snowy backyard near the town of Braunau.

Anton looks fit and is expected to survive the winter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Boston

## Creature stalks the frozen wastes during blizzard

The monster storm in Boston has brought with it another monster: A yeti. The furry phantom, whose true identity is not yet known, has been getting laughs by walking through the blizzard in a sasquatch suit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Sweden

## Pool opens neutral-gender change room

A public swimming pool in the city of Sundbyberg is reopening this week-end after building a third change room for people with a "neutral gender identity." The city says it's the first LGBT-certified pool in Sweden. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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## Employment. Sidewalk job hunter snags career

Innovative thinking — and stamina to brave the frigid weather — has finally paid off for Xingyi Yan.

The University of Toronto grad took to Toronto's streets a few months ago with a sandwich-board sign advertising that she was available for hire. Now, she's a search analyst at advertising company Reprise Media.

The unconventional job-hunting strategy drew plenty of criticism. One person, Yan said, told her she was "humiliating" herself by begging for a job. Regardless, she has no regrets. "It got me a job in my dream career," Yan said.

Her new job ties in with her effort. Someone who passed Yan on the street took her resumé, referred her to a network for marketing professionals and she spotted the opening at Reprise Media.

A week later, she had a job interview. Overall, Yan said, she landed more than a dozen job interview opportunities out of the campaign.

Her approach was risky, but sometimes that can pay off, said Robin Giang, a hu-



Xingyi Yan at her desk at Reprise Media where she landed a job after taking to the streets for weeks with a placard, handing out resumé.

CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

man resources manager at Toronto's Great Connections Employment Services. Generally, bold moves like Yan's either hook potential employers or turn them away altogether, Giang said.

Yan, meanwhile, is encouraging others in her shoes to chase their dreams no matter how controversial the means and unpredictable the results.

"It may not be perfect, but you'll feel good because you tried for yourself, not for others," she said.

GILBERT NGABO/METRO IN TORONTO

# Tim Hortons bound by layoff restrictions

**Takeover.** Industry Canada says Burger King has agreed to keep 80 per cent of corporate jobs

Ottawa has restricted Burger King from eliminating more than 20 per cent of corporate staff at Tim Hortons' long-time headquarters or regional offices, an Industry Canada spokesman confirms.

The newly-merged company Restaurant Brands International is required to "maintain significant employment levels" of non-restaurant employees, as part of the list of commitments the fast-food behemoth made to get final approval in December from the federal government to seal the \$12.5-billion deal.

Although it wasn't announced at the time, Industry Minister James Moore actually secured a more definitive commitment that Burger King maintain 80 per cent of Tim Hortons' "entire corporate footprint" at both the Oakville head office and regional offices across Canada, said his press secretary, Jake Enwright.

Tim Hortons still refused Wednesday to publicly divulge the exact number of people who were laid off this week, although media speculation has run rampant that up to 40 per cent of middle managers were swept up



Tim Hortons franchises employ 96,000 restaurant workers and are barred from reducing staffing levels under an agreement reached with Burger King, according to Industry Minister James Moore's press secretary, Jake Enwright.

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

## Layoffs

**40%**

Media speculation has run rampant that up to 40 per cent of middle managers were swept up in the round of layoffs that began Tuesday morning.

in the round of layoffs that began Tuesday morning, just six weeks after the controversial takeover was completed.

With an estimated 2,000 employees at both head office and seven regional offices from British Columbia to Nova Scotia and one in the U.S., the restrictions would translate into a maximum of 200 workers impacted.

Enwright pointed out

that Tim Hortons franchises, which employ 96,000 restaurant workers, cannot reduce staffing levels under the agreement with Burger King.

The merger created the world's third-largest restaurant company, with 18,000 stores and \$23 billion in sales. It was originally pitched by executives as the best way to expand Tim Hortons internationally and make the Canadian brand truly global.

When the blockbuster deal was announced last August, critics warned that Burger King's owner 3G Capital, a Brazil-based investment firm, has a track record of paring staff and slashing costs, and would do the same in a Tims takeover. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Internet

## Yahoo spins off valuable stake in China's Alibaba

Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer is losing a precious security blanket now that she is spinning off the Internet company's prized stake in China's Alibaba Group into a new entity called SpinCo.

Ownership of 384 million shares of Alibaba stock, currently worth \$39 billion US, represent the main reason that Yahoo's stock has more than tripled since Mayer became CEO. Investors viewed Yahoo as another way to own a piece of Alibaba. As long as there was a link to the successful e-commerce company, it

almost didn't matter that Yahoo's own digital services have been struggling to generate more revenue.

With the Alibaba stake jettisoned by the end of the year, Mayer will be under greater pressure to prove she can rejuvenate one of the Internet's oldest and best-known companies.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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## VOICES

# CRIMINALIZING DISSENT

Terrorism “endorsement” law a half-baked idea that would make free thought illegal



**OMAR MOUALLEM**  
readers@metronews.ca

Last Sunday, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, standing before a humongous Canadian flag, promised a new anti-terror bill that would “help authorities stop planned attacks, get threats off our streets and” — insert record scratch — “criminalize the promotion of terrorism.”

Such a law is intended to prevent another Parliament shooting, but without a Criminal Code definition of “terrorism” (just a robust definition of “terrorist activity”), does it also leave us vulnerable to an attack on free expression?

We can assume Harper was referring to jihadi terrorism — not environmental terrorism or white su-

premacist terrorism — since that was the crux of his campaigning speech at an Ottawa secondary school. But we’ll see tomorrow, as he is poised to unveil the proposed legislation Friday. The Liberals are backing it.

“Glorification of terrorism” laws have been on Harper’s radar for a while, and they’ve intensified after incidents in October that claimed the lives of two Canadian soldiers — one in Quebec and another in Ottawa on Parliament Hill. French authorities recently used a glorification law to arrest comedian Dieudonné M’bala M’bala, who posted “I feel like Charlie Coulibaly” (Coulibaly being the last name of one of the Paris gunmen) on Facebook.

Two researchers, from the universities of British Columbia and Waterloo, recently assessed a pro-

spective glorification law for Canada and concluded: “The chill effect on speech would be potentially enormous ... The measures may also be counterproductive, diminishing the very speech that may contain strategic and tactical intelligence for counter-terrorism investigators.”

To be clear, our Charter of Rights and Freedoms already prohibits expressions of violence, threats of violence and general hate propaganda. With sweeping powers such as preventative detention already in its possession, it’s difficult to understand why law enforcement needs anything more.

Criminalizing “endorsements of terror” could target speech with only vague intent.

And the law doesn’t like vagueness. It recoils at vagueness. It shrivels and breaks apart.

An endorsement, we can assume, is a public or private approval of terrorism — systematic violence to coerce a government or community (I’m just deferring to the Oxford dictionary now, since I can’t rely on the criminal code for a definition yet). A Canadian might endorse or glorify terrorism because he or she is trying to test the waters with their audience and organize an attack, sure, but a Canadian might also do so for more complex reasons that we won’t begin to understand if we pre-emptively shush them.

Some Canadians’ families are from countries where their elected governments are also threats to national security, or belong to a marginalized ethnic group that, overseas, is protected by a certified terrorist organization.

Prepare to read many “endorse-

ments” of terrorism as Israel prepares to retaliate against Lebanon for the killing of two IDF soldiers by Hezbollah missiles.

Are they, and anyone who retweets an ISIL beheading video, or likes M’bala’s comments, guilty by association?

And what else are we willing to criminalize in the name of small security?

Regardless of how shocking and, yes, potentially dangerous, these “endorsements” may be, they have the right to be expressed — then criticized, debated or mocked.

Apparently, though, this isn’t enough for the Harper government.

Is it enough for you?

*Omar Mouallem is an Edmonton-based writer and editor of The Yards.*

# No good deed goes unpunished by law enforcement



**KRISTEN THOMPSON**  
readers@metronews.ca

I’m your average Canadian — polite, apologetic and law-abiding. I like that rules are in place to maintain order and fairness.

But there’s something wrong with a legal system that punishes Good Samaritans — and by extension the people they are trying to help.

Take the recent story of a Calgary woman who was fined \$250 for giving her transit pass to a man who was down on his luck. The woman, who had two passes, says she was trying to be generous by gifting her pass to someone in need. A transit officer fined them both.

“It’s not about the money or the fine, but about the way David was treated,” the woman told Metro in a recent interview. “Calgary is supposed to be a place where we look out for each other.”

She’s right. Rules, 99 per cent of the time, should be enforced. But if we can’t make exceptions for those cases when mistakes are made or, when a broken rule helps give someone a boost, then we’ve become automatons with no capacity for discretion and compassion.

The enforcement of draconian rules — simply because they are rules — happens a lot.



Sgt. Al Lerner speaks with Arnold Abbott, a 90-year-old chef, as he warns him that he will be cited for feeding the homeless in violation of a city law in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. in November. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES FILE

A Toronto restaurant that caters to disabled diners is facing tens of thousands of dollars in fines from the city because a newly built ramp violates a bylaw by several centimetres. Rules are rules, says the city, and the expensive ramp must be dismantled.

Then there are the municipalities, at least 30 in the U.S., that are cracking down on food distribution programs for the homeless. In a shocking example of NIMBYism, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., “feeding sites” must now be more than 500 feet away from residential properties and must not oper-

ate outdoors. In that city, a 90-year-old man — who, along with two ministers has been feeding the homeless in public for 23 years now — faces jail time and a fine for the crime of handing out food to the hungry.

I’ve run into similar situations on a much smaller scale. On a recent

### Correction

In a column published on the Voices page on Jan. 28, Metro incorrectly identified a woman killed in Winnipeg. Her name is Tina Fontaine. Metro regrets the error.

flight, a fellow passenger with splints on her arms asked me to lift her carry-on into the overhead storage. A flight attendant put a quick stop to this, informing us that no one except the passenger was permitted to lift luggage on the plane. Neither of us was fined, obviously, but it was another case of hard-and-fast rule-following that seemed ridiculous given the situation.

We, the rule followers and rule enforcers, need to ask ourselves two questions: First, who are these laws protecting? Anyone? No one? And who are these laws hurting? The needy? The giving?

Rules are there to protect us, to make the world better and safer. But zero-tolerance policies are missing the point, and when our laws hurt rather than help, they are not really doing their job.

*Follow Kristen Thompson on Twitter at @KristenThom*



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## Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S  
TAKE ON THE  
WORLD OF  
CELEBRITIES


Gabrielle Union ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

## Gabrielle Union makes us all feel really old

Being Mary Jane star Gabrielle Union takes issue with some of the tactics of those reporting on Hollywood. "The fact that I can do a press junket for a movie and people ask what's happening in my uterus says a lot," she tells Yahoo Style.

"They want 110 per cent of what you have to offer." I sincerely hope she's

talking about what she as an actress and celebrity has to offer, and not what her uterus has to offer, because that's just weird.

But she has some other things to talk about, too, like how she would cast a reboot of Bring It On.

Wait, hold on, that movie is 15 years old, and Union still looks pretty much the same as she did

when she filmed it. Why would anyone be talking about rebooting it?

Anyway, hypothetically speaking, here's what she thinks: For her role? Keke Palmer, with Dakota Fanning taking over the Kirsten Dunst role and Selena Gomez stepping into Eliza Dushku's "bad-girl role." Way to make us all feel old, Gabrielle.



Lindsay Lohan

## More legal woes for Lindsay Lohan

Did Lindsay Lohan forget some of her court-mandated obligations when she packed up and moved to London last year? That's what prosecutors worry, and they may be looking to lock her up if she can't prove she's completed the 240 hours of court-mandated community service she

was assigned for her 2012 reckless driving case. Santa Monica Chief Deputy City Attorney Terry White says he doubts Lohan completed 80 hours of community service in nine days as documentation presented by Lohan's attorney on Wednesday claims.

WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Sam Smith wants the fame, but not the flaws

In a candid, far-reaching GQ Magazine interview, Grammy nominee Sam Smith reveals his desires to be a pop star — but not, you know, be a pop star. If that makes any sense. "I don't want to lose my mind or my humour. I want to be a pop star, but I also don't want to be a pop star," he says. "I will never act like some of the current pop stars have acted toward me. We can be friends, you know? We can. It's not a competition. There's space for all of us." Frustratingly, he does not name names, but who wants to make guesses as to which divas he's talking about?



Sam Smith

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# Horrors! Genre-bending author makes everyone else look lazy

**Fiction.** Novelist, director, producer and screenplay writer Seth Grahame-Smith is also part of the writing team for this year's Academy Awards

Seth Grahame-Smith's life could be described as a mash-up. He's author of the bestseller *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter*, and the followup — *The Last American Vampire* — is now in stores.

Grahame-Smith is also busy with several other projects, including his directorial debut on the film *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, writing and co-producing the sequel to *Beetlejuice*, writing two *Lego* movies and writing a pilot for CBS.

He's also on the writing team for this year's Academy Awards. In a recent interview, Grahame-Smith said the Oscars have always been a big deal in the Grahame-Smith household and that he usually throws viewing parties when the awards are presented. This year, he'll be "in a tux, backstage. That'll be fun."

In a recent interview, the 39-year-old talked about his new book, juggling projects and teaching through entertainment.

## Should you get credit for creating the mash-up?

I don't think that *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies* or *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter* created the mash-up. I just think they popularized it. I think there were mash-ups before, and I think, there were certainly people blending genres, and writers way better than me and far longer ago, who were playing with the idea of mixing fantasy and horror or mixing science-fiction with romance. I think I just happen to do it in a very loud and obnoxious way and was lucky enough



Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter author Seth Grahame-Smith's new novel, *The Last American Vampire*, is in stores. GETTY IMAGES

to do it a time when people were receptive to it.

## You write about historical figures and vampires and zombies, but you do a lot of research for your books. There are facts in these stories.

I give you some medicine with your sugar. I give you a little bit of real history — just enough so you know something about that time period so you can discuss it at a dinner party; as long as you don't go further than

## Quoted

"I give you a little bit of real history, just enough so you know something about that time period so you can discuss it at a dinner party."

Author Seth Grahame-Smith

that and add the part where vampires start cutting each other's heads off and everything.



## How do you keep track of your projects?

A typical day now might be: I work on some *Lego* movie stuff, I work on some *Beetlejuice* stuff and then I jump over here and work on Oscars, and then I jump back and I work on who knows what else, but it's great! I love being busy. I love the challenge of it, I love the engagement of it ... At some point all of this goes away and, you know, you get bounced out of the writing business or bounced out of Hollywood one way or another. Almost everybody does. So, I'm just trying to enjoy it while it lasts.

## Do you ever procrastinate when you're writing?

I procrastinate all day. In 12 hours of sitting at the computer desk every day, I probably do 2-1/2 hours of writing, if I'm being generous. Because there are other things going on. There are phone calls to be returned, there are meetings to be had, lunches to go to, there are emails to browse through and then ... who doesn't love Twitter or Facebook or Reddit or Gawker or Gizmodo or Huffington Post or any of the 2,000 sites I read religiously every day, all day? You need to keep the writing muscles in shape.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Sequel. Next entry in Stieg Larsson's Salander series arrives in August



Stieg Larsson's trilogy featuring Lisbeth Salander is a worldwide hit. AFP

A sequel to late Swedish author Stieg Larsson's best-selling *Millennium* crime trilogy will go on sale in at least 35 countries in August, the book's publishers said Tuesday.

That *Which Does Not Kill* was completed by David Lagercrantz, known for co-authoring Swedish soccer star Zlatan Ibrahimovic's autobiography. He stands in for Larsson, who died of a heart attack in 2004 at the age of 50.

The book will continue the story of the troubled but resourceful heroine Lisbeth Salander, first made famous in Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*.

But the author remained tight-lipped about the meaning of the title or what direction the action-packed political thriller — 500 pages long in Swedish — will take.

"What I wanted to make use of in the book was the vast mythology that Stieg Larsson left behind, the world he created," Lagercrantz told the daily *Dagens Nyheter*, adding that

## Salander sequel

- At the time of his death Larsson reportedly had plans to write at least another seven novels.

- Larsson's publishers, Nordstedts, say the first three books in the Lisbeth Salander series have sold 80 million copies worldwide since the first book went on sale in 2005.

- The Aug. 27 release of the next book is being compared to the hype surrounding Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* in 2003.

he remained loyal to Larsson's writing style, which weaved criticism of social and political issues with criminal intrigue.

"Lisbeth Salander's not just any superhero. She's not only great because of her talents, but also because of her context and background." AFP

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Author Nick Hornby's previous novels include *About a Boy*, *High Fidelity*, *Fever Pitch* and *Juliet, Naked*. MIRIAM DOUGLAS

# Hornby on Hollywood: What comes next for one-hit wonders

**Fiction.** New novel *Funny Girl* asks big questions about the meaning of success

EMILY  
LAURENCE  
Metro in New York City

Although Nick Hornby's seventh novel, *Funny Girl*, is set in the 1960s, the premise couldn't be more relevant today: How do you live after an enormous amount of success comes to define your life?

"We see it all the time," Hornby says. "People make one show, one album, one movie or one book. How do you cope with that afterwards?"

*Funny Girl*, which will be published Feb. 3, follows a small-town girl named Barbara who moves to London with big dreams of becoming the next Lucille Ball.

The blessing and the curse is Barbara is beautiful, which

doesn't lend itself to being cast in comic roles.

"When I was working on *An Education* (for which Hornby wrote the screenplay), Rosamund Pike said to me that she wanted to do the comic role in the movie because she wasn't allowed to be funny very often.

"And that was all she said, but I was thinking about that and how maybe the way she looks means she only gets a certain type of part."

In the book, Barbara does land a leading sitcom role and becomes one of the most famous actresses in Britain. She's an enjoyable character to follow in the book, but the supportive characters are just as colourful.

There's Clive, her skirt-chasing TV husband; the director Dennis, who pines after Barbara although she's with Clive on-and-off; and the writers Bill and Tony, who met in prison after they were both arrested for trying to pick up men in the restroom. (This be-

## Quoted

"We see it all the time. People make one show, one album, one movie or one book. How do you cope with that afterwards?"

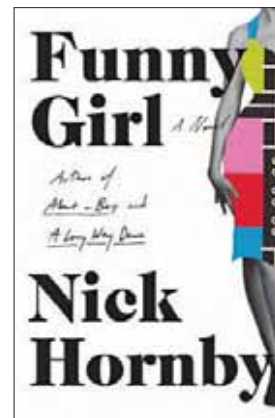
Author Nick Hornby

ing the 1960s, homosexuality was illegal.)

In one scene, Dennis is caught in a highbrow-versus-lowbrow debate on a BBC news show defending the wildly popular sitcom he directs. Hornby says this is something he's experienced his entire career.

"It's never very far from any of us, is it? It's with literary fiction versus non-literary fiction, indie rock versus American Idol music. It's a debate that never seems to go away or get old," he says.

The book doesn't stay in



the '60s. It brings readers right up to 2015, with the characters in their 70s, long after the heyday of the sitcom.

So how does each character deal with getting older and the dimming of their success? There will be no spoilers here, only a tease: It's vastly different for everyone, and, as with any Hornby novel, you'll close the book thinking it's his best.



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# Right this way to a new lingerie

**Style.** Flamboyant or minimalist, here are the coming season's undergarment trends

The organizers of the Parisian trade show Salon International de la Lingerie presented some of the leading underwear trends for Fall-Winter 2015-2016 this week.

The season offers something for everyone, with lingerie that is sophisticated, seductive, simple, or all of the above.

Last year, an overriding trend emerged from the lingerie collections in Paris: "erotic glam."

Designers presented their undergarments as tools of seduction that were sexy, or even kinky, yet always glamorous and refined.

While this vision still shows through in some of the Fall-Winter 2015-2016 collections, there is much more diversity in the lingerie world this season.

Underwear brands have designed collections to suit every woman, from those who think seduction starts with comfort to those looking for extravagance above all else.

## The provocative '80s

From outerwear to lingerie, the styles of the '80s have influenced fashion for more than three decades now. But lingerie designers are taking things to a new level this year with eccentric, often unconventional pieces inspired by the decade of big hair. For the most part, this means amplified volume and flashy colours.

Sexy, seductive and exuberant, the woman of the '80s has long been represented in lingerie by French designer Chantal Thomass, who has never hesitated to redefine the feminine silhouette. This year, however, several other designers have taken on a similarly



Madame Aime is pointing up minimalist chic this season in simple yet seductive pieces such as this partially sheer bodysuit.

MADAME AIME / AFP

decadent style.

Their collections are full of push-up bras, high-waist panties and corsets, all in high-end materials such as silk and lace, with refined accents such as jewels, Lurex embroidery or gold thread. I.D. Sarrieri, for example, designed a bustier that places particular emphasis on the breasts

and the hips, calling to mind Jean Paul Gaultier designs. Huit has decked out its latest collection with silver thread, while Aubade chose to put lace in unexpected places, such as around the neck and in a garter belt that laces up around the waist.



Victoria's Secret keeps it simple with a toned-down baby-doll. \$39.50, victoriasecret.com

## '90s-style minimalism

On the other hand, some of the new collections reflect the minimalist styles of the '90s, playing up comfort and simplicity rather than showy decoration. Some designers are even presenting versatile items to be worn either as lingerie or as outer apparel, such as bras that can pass as crop tops



LA SENZA CHANNELS THE ENERGY OF THE 1980S WITH THIS BOLD NUMBER. PUSHUP MERRYWIDOW, \$59.50, LASENZA.CA

## Capsule collection

## Louboutin and Von Teese launch lingerie line

Parisian shoe designer Christian Louboutin has teamed up with American burlesque star Dita Von Teese on a new capsule collection.



The seven-piece line includes a bra, bodice and suspenders, all featuring black lace and an all-over print designed by Louboutin, and also decorated with red Swarovski crystals.

The print includes Rococo-style scenes with sexy burlesque dancers, French maids and male lovers draped in sheets, as well as Louboutin's famous red-soled shoes, of course. The XXXtian pieces are available exclusively from Glamuse.com.

or bandeaus.

Still sexy, of course, these designs reflect the thinking that seduction is more about natural confidence than sophisticated adornment.

Bodysuits and athletic-style bras (without cups) are among the leading examples of this trend, seen mainly in neutral shades (white, black, brown, grey, beige).

Madame Aime and Fishbelly lead the charge, presenting sportswear-inspired ensembles that simply hug the body's natural curves rather than reshaping them. AFP

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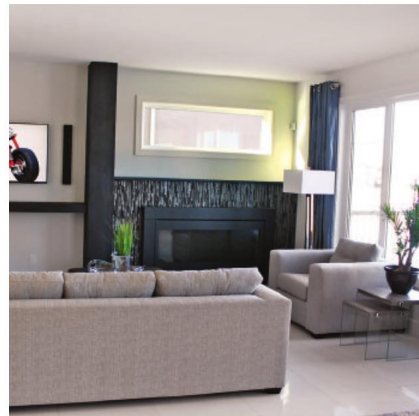




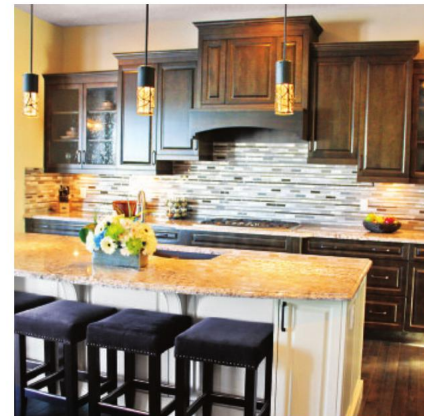
Inside the Kanvi home.



Inside the Krisner home.



Inside the Veneto home.



Inside the Tristate home. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

# Local builders create Dream Street

Four executive lifestyle homes are now open in St. Albert's Erin Ridge North, but they aren't just any homes.

They are Dream Homes for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Dream Home & Win50 Lottery. Each was crafted by a different builder — Kanvi Homes, Dream Homes By Krisner, Veneto Homes, and Tristate Homes. They came together to join Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area (BGCBig) and Landrex Inc. to lend their creativity and

talent to help their community's kids.

According to Gisele Sowa, director of marketing for residential at Landrex, it turned out to be quite easy to bring together four typically competitive builders.

"They were intrigued by the significant exposure the Dream Home campaign garners, but what really solidified their commitment was the cause, being able to make a difference in the lives of children and youth simply by doing what they're good at

— building incredible homes."

Each builder brings a unique style of home to the campaign. Kanvi focuses on modern design, Krisner aims for structural superiority, Veneto creates functional spaces, and Tristate believes in sustainable housing. The grand prize winner will choose the home of their dreams.

"It's inspiring to see the building community come together to support the children and youth in Edmonton and the sur-

rounding area," says Liz O'Neill, executive director of BGCBig. "It's because of their support that we are able to bring Dream Street back after over 20 years and let ticket buyers choose their favourite home."

Tickets are on sale until March 31 and with four awesome early bird prizes available, the earlier you buy, the more chances you have to win. For more information about each home or supporting the campaign, please visit [bigbrothershomelottery.org](http://bigbrothershomelottery.org).

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**Map:** ST ALBERT TRAIL, ERIN RIDGE N, EXECUTIVE WAY N, EDGEMOUNT TERRACE N, TELUS DRIVE

House Numbers 22, 24, 26, 28  
Executive Way North - ERIN RIDGE N, St. Albert



# Take a seat: A chair for all reasons

**Decor question.** Find me a chair that can be put to use in many areas of my home

**I need more dining chairs for occasional dinner parties and I'd like to find an all-purpose chair to use in the**

**dining or living room when extra guests need a seat.**  
—Mark, via email



**DESIGN CENTRE**  
Karl Lohnes  
home@metronews.ca

The perfect chair is one that sits discreetly at the dining

table, looks pretty in a bedroom corner or helps host a large gathering in the family room. The prerequisites for this everything-to-everyone chair are comfort (for long dinners), style (for staring at morning and night in the bedroom), and petite (so it's easy to move around). Here's a lineup of the best

## Danish beauty

Designer Ceci Thompson's fresh approach on Danish style offers mix of wood and upholstery comfortable enough to sit or dine. Austin Chair, \$299, CB2.com



## Armed with options

Choose your wood stains and fabric colours for a custom chair with solid-looking style. Tokai Armchair, \$1,995, Avenue-Road.com



## Buttoned up

Tailored upholstery with classic button tufting equals great sex appeal. Spring Chair, \$199, Structube.com



## Piping dream

Upholstered legs and white contrast piping gives this four-legged friend a sleek look. Valentin Arm Chair, \$299, EQ3.com



## Got it plaid

Ever so handsome — just waiting for a dinner date. Henriksdal Chair, \$99, IKEA.com



## Deco delight

Sleek deco curves are welcome at any table or sitting area. Carol Channel Chair, \$1,075, Elte.com



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# Where beer, beans and chocolate make sense

**Dinner.** Keep this Chocolate Chip and Stout Chili family friendly by containing the heat

"This recipe comes from my friend Aimee, who originally sourced it from Nigella Lawson," writes Jan Scott in *Gatherings*, which she co-authored with Julie Van Rosendaal. "In my version, the flavours are mild, keeping it very family friendly, but you can certainly boost

## Ingredients

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- 2 lb (1 kg) lean ground beef
- 2 lb (1 kg) sausages, casings removed
- 3 medium onions, peeled and finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled and finely chopped
- 2 tsp (10 ml) ground cumin
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground coriander
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp (2.5 ml) ground cardamom
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chili powder
- one 5 1/2 oz (156 ml) can tomato paste
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) ketchup
- three 14 oz (398 ml) cans red kidney beans, drained
- three 14 oz (398 ml) cans crushed or diced tomatoes
- one 16 oz (475 ml) can stout beer (such as Guinness)
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- salt and pepper to taste



This recipe serves eight to 10 people. JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL AND JAN SCOTT FOR GATHERINGS (WHITECAP BOOKS)

the heat by adding a fresh sliced and seeded chili pepper, as Nigella suggests in her original recipe.

"You can serve this as part of a casual Mexican-inspired buffet by adding baskets of crisp tortilla chips, sour cream, shredded cheese, fresh cilantro, pickled jalapeños, green onions and

lime wedges, or just as it is alongside a floury dinner roll or hunk of cornbread."

1. Preheat the oven to 300 F (150 C). Heat the olive oil in a large ovenproof pot (with lid) and add the ground beef and sausage. Brown the meat on medium heat, breaking it up as it cooks.

2. Add the onion and garlic and cook until soft and translucent, about 8–10 minutes. Stir in the cumin, coriander, cinnamon, cardamom and chili powder; mix well to combine.

3. Stir in the tomato paste, ketchup, beans and crushed tomatoes; add the stout and

bring the chili to a boil.

4. Once it starts bubbling, remove the pot from the heat. Sprinkle the chocolate chips over the chili, cover with the lid and transfer the pot to the oven, cooking for 3 hours. Check seasonings, adding salt and pepper if necessary. Serve hot.

## Cookbook of the Week

Gather 'round for delicious eats



While other cookbooks focus on recipes, *Gatherings* also shines the spotlight on real situations that bring people together — casual weeknight dinners, baby showers, birthday parties, big family gatherings, game nights, date nights or even Sunday suppers.

Not only does each section include recipes but also drink or cocktail, easy serving, decor and presentation suggestions.

Among the recipes in *Gatherings* are Simple French Onion Soup, Eggs Benny On Parmesan Potato Waffles, Grilled Romaine Caesar Salad, Hoisin Pork Lettuce Wraps, Candy Sushi Platter and Crostini. **METRO**

RECIPE EXCERPTED FROM *GATHERINGS* (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL AND JAN SCOTT

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NHL

## Ovie, Holtby lead Caps over Pens

Alex Ovechkin scored twice to take the NHL lead in goals and Braden Holtby recovered from a mini slump to get his fifth shutout of the season as the Washington Capitals broke a four-game losing streak with a 4-0 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Wednesday.

Ovechkin had a tip-in goal in the first period and then scored from his customary spot in the left circle with a one-timer on a power play in the second. His 29 goals are one more than Rich Nash and Tyler Seguin. Eric Fehr and Mike Green scored in the third.

Holtby had allowed four goals in each of his last three starts. He stopped 27 shots to blank the Pens for the second time in a little over a month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Devils burn Leafs in a shootout

Jacob Josefson and Patrik Elias scored in the shootout and the New Jersey Devils rallied late to beat Toronto 2-1 on Wednesday night, extending the Maple Leafs' losing streak to a season-high seven games.

Cory Schneider made 29 saves through overtime and handled both Toronto shootout attempts as the Devils won for the fifth time in eight games (5-2-1).

Devils defenceman Adam Larsson scored the tying goal with 2:50 left in regulation.

James van Riemsdyk scored on a breakaway in the third period, and Jonathan Bernier made 22 saves in the loss.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Draisaitl given a chance to succeed



THE HOCKEY NEWS  
Ryan Kennedy  
edmonton@metronews.ca

With much of the past week focused on the NHL All-Star Game, there wasn't a lot to report on in terms of actual Oilers action, but the hockey world was far from stagnant.

One of the most promising Edmonton prospects is big centre Leon Draisaitl, who was infamously kept out of the world juniors by the Oilers, only to be assigned to major junior's Western Hockey League shortly thereafter. In my opinion, Draisaitl would not have saved the Germans from relegation anyway, and he told me last summer that at the previous world juniors, he tried too hard and it messed with his head. It's all in the past now anyway, so we move on.

Draisaitl is now playing for the Kelowna Rockets, a powerhouse team that acquired him from the more humble Prince Albert Raiders. In eight games, the powerful pivot has posted 12 points and has done so on the team's second line. So he's not even playing with Kelowna's best forwards and he's getting the job done.

The biggest upshot of Draisaitl playing for the Rockets instead of the Oilers (where he spent 37 games this season) is that Kelowna has a very real chance of winning both a league title and the Memorial Cup this season. Another former Prince



Leon Draisaitl has posted 12 points in just eight games since joining the Kelowna Rockets — and that's from playing on the team's second line. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Albert star, Winnipeg Jets first-rounder Josh Morrissey, was added to the Kelowna defence corps before the world juniors, and the Rockets were already flush with talent to begin with.

I like that Draisaitl has been put in a situation where he can succeed without being The Guy. No doubt he can handle such a burden, but after everything he went through in Edmonton, I'm sure it's nice to step out of the spotlight for a bit.

And perhaps expectations

### High hopes

Perhaps expectations were too high to begin with. He is, after all, still a teenager.

were too high to begin with. He is, after all, still a teenager. And the draft class he came from was not very strong — we knew this going in. Only one player from the 2014 draft has played every game for his NHL team this season

and that's No. 1 pick Aaron Ekblad, who patrols the blue-line for the Florida Panthers and will certainly earn rookie of the year consideration.

I was fine with Edmonton keeping Draisaitl up and taking his lumps because if he's the sort of player scouts envisioned — a Joe Thornton or Anze Kopitar type — experience against bigger, stronger and more experienced players would be a good trial by fire. But winning's not bad either and with Kelowna, Draisaitl can definitely do a lot of that.

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# Pats aren't aiming for perfection, just a title

**NFL.** New England insists it's way beyond disappointment of 2008 Super Bowl loss

The road to perfection reached a dead end in the Arizona desert. Now the New England Patriots are back where a Super Bowl championship — and an unbeaten record — barely eluded them seven years ago.

Not that they dwell on their return to the place where the best season in NFL history slipped from their grasp.

"It's not where we play, it's how we play," Tom Brady said Wednesday, "and I'm glad we're here with the opportunity to do something really special."

A win Sunday night against the Seattle Seahawks would even the Patriots' record in Super Bowls at University of



Tom Brady participated fully in the Patriots' first Super Bowl practice of the week on Wednesday after coming down with a cold. MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phoenix Stadium at 1-1. New England is seeking a championship, not closure for its 17-14 loss to the New York Giants in 2008.

"I'm sure it will be a cool story if we win, saying we came back to the same place," kicker Stephen Gostkowski said, "but I don't think about that stuff. I'm just looking to

make the first kick that they send me out for."

So when a receiver leaps for a pass at the opponent's 23-yard line, don't expect the Patriots to have flashbacks to David Tyree trapping the ball against his helmet at that spot with Rodney Harrison draped over him.

That 32-yard completion

with just over a minute left, after Eli Manning kept the play alive by breaking free with defensive end Richard Seymour tugging at his jersey, set up the winning 13-yard touchdown pass to Plaxico Burress.

It took Patriots players a long time to get over how close they came to a 19-0 record. Then coach Bill Belichick met with his assistants.

"One day Bill walks in," running backs coach Ivan Fears said. "He says, 'We got to move on guys, start smiling.'"

It's a cornerstone of Belichick's philosophy. Lamenting misfortunes leads to more of them, Fears said.

Fears, offensive co-ordinator Josh McDaniels and defensive co-ordinator Matt Patricia remain from the staff at the 2008 Super Bowl. Brady, Gostkowski and defensive tackle Vince Wilfork are the only players from that game still on the Patriots. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Australian Open

### Raonic stumped by Djokovic again

Milos Raonic lost a chance to play a second Grand Slam semifinal after losing 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-2 to Novak Djokovic on Wednesday at the Australian Open.

The eighth seed, from Thornhill, was beaten by the top seed and world No. 1 for the fifth time in their career series. Djokovic beat the 24-year-old Raonic three times in 2014, including in a French Open quarter-final.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## NBA

### Wrist puts James back on sideline

Cavaliers superstar LeBron James could miss several games with a sprained right wrist sustained during a hard fall against Detroit.

James, who got hurt while trying to brace himself from the fall on Tuesday night, sat out Wednesday's game against Portland.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## World soccer

### Figo aiming to replace Blatter

The fight to remove Sepp Blatter from the most powerful job in soccer intensified Wednesday.

In a surprise bid for the FIFA presidency, Portugal's Luis Figo entered the race. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Luis Figo  
GETTY IMAGES

## In Spain

### Neymar on the double for Barca



Neymar  
GETTY IMAGES

Neymar scored twice to lead Barcelona past nine-man Atletico Madrid and into the Copa del Rey semifinals

with a 3-2 (4-2 on aggregate) win on Wednesday. Villarreal or Getafe are up next for Barca. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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## NBA. Red-hot third leads to Raps win

The Toronto Raptors turned good defence into torrid offence Wednesday night as they lit up the slumping Sacramento Kings 119-102.

Greivis Vasquez and Jonas Valanciunas combined for 21 points in a red-hot third quarter and the Raptors won their fourth straight while handing the Kings their seventh straight loss.

Toronto (31-15) connected on 17 of 34 three-pointers, erasing the season high of 15. The franchise mark is 21, set in 2005 against Philadelphia.

Tied 54-54 at the half, the Raptors outscored Sacramento 39-22 in the third when they converted eight of 10 three-pointers. Vasquez and Valanciunas had four points apiece in the first half before coming alive in the third.

Toronto coach Dwane Casey



Greivis Vasquez helped spark the Raptors in the second half on Wednesday night. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

pointed to the defensive efforts of Valanciunas and Chuck Hayes on Sacramento big man DeMarcus Cousins in the third.

"I thought the defence set the tempo for our offence," said Casey. "We started being more

aggressive offensively. Physicality. It was almost like we were afraid to touch them in the first half. And once we got into them physically, started putting our hands on them, touching them, starting blitzing Rudy (Gay) a little bit more — I think he only had five points in the second half — that's when our offence got clicking and got going in transition."

"Our best offence was our defence," added Vasquez, who finished with 17 points.

Sacramento (16-28) has lost eight of its last 10.

"Neither team was really playing good defence," said Cousins. "It was preached, it was said that whichever team decided to be the first team to play defence was going to win the game and they decided to play defence first. That's the story." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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## AUGMENTED REALITY

**Stuck on 12 Across?**  
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See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.



### Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

#### Aries

March 21 - April 20

You will say or do something controversial today and those who are not as open and honest as you won't like it. Too bad. Rock the boat a little.

#### Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Stand up for what you believe in and refuse to change your ways or your views simply to please those in authority. By all means pick a battle today.

#### Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Anyone who doubts you are a free-thinker won't doubt it much longer. In fact, what you profess to believe over the next 24 hours will mark you out as a maverick.

#### Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You need to get tough today, firstly with yourself for being far too wasteful of late, then with those who seem to believe that you exist only to make life easier for them.

#### Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You will either draw closer to someone today or you will drift so far apart that you are unlikely ever to get back together again.

#### Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Try not to make a big issue of something that is really quite trivial. If you are having problems on the work front take it as a sign that you are doing something wrong.

#### Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Because the sun is moving through the most creative and dynamic area of your chart, you won't find it hard to start something special.

#### Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

It does not matter how many mistakes you have made or how many times you have failed. It matters only that you are still alive and kicking and ready to rejoin the fray.

#### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You are at your best when dealing with people on a one-to-one basis, so forget about your chores and get out into the world and have fun.

#### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

The most important thing today, tomorrow and over the weekend is that you resist the urge to compare yourself to others. Set targets based on your own true desires.

#### Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

The world is full of possibilities and each one of those is there for you to make use of. Others may say certain things cannot be done, but you must ignore them.

#### Pisces

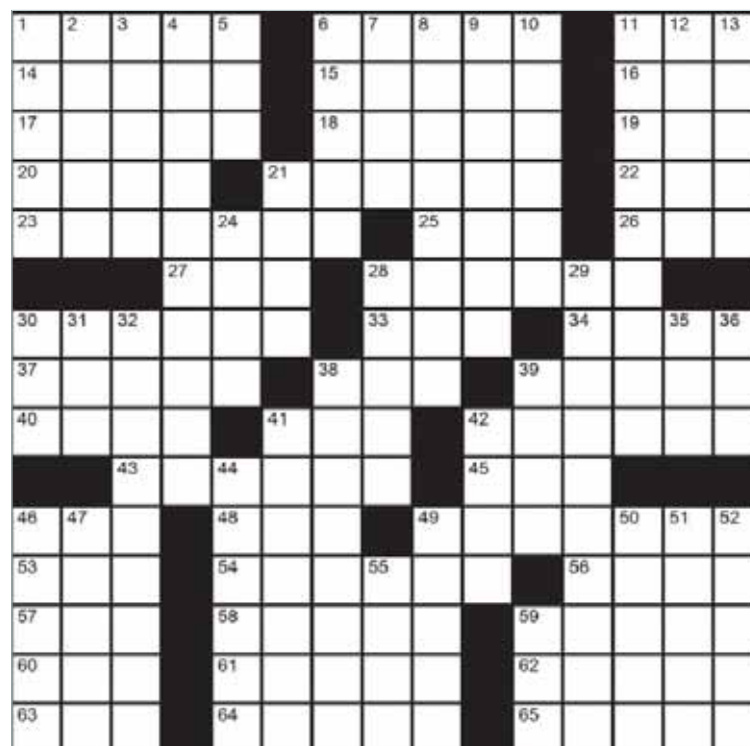
Feb. 20 - March 20

Put the past behind you and start again with a more positive attitude. Get over any guilty feelings you have about things you should have done.

### Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

#### Across

1. \_\_\_ and potatoes
6. Hunks
11. Shirt
14. \_\_\_ Adler ("The woman" Sherlock Holmes held in high regard)
15. "We're off \_\_\_ the Wizard...": 2 wds.
16. Trip up
17. Late
18. Inner's opposite
19. Ms. Vardalos
20. Mideast chieftain, variantly
21. Spacecraft's landing unit
22. \_\_\_-stick frying pan
23. Accelerate: 2 wds.
25. Oz character's coating
26. If I Didn't Care by The \_\_\_ Spots
27. Director Mr. Anderson
28. Doesn't let the subscription expire
30. Saunters
33. Adam's \_\_\_ (Water, colloquially)
34. Goes for
37. \_\_\_ panels (Eco-house features)
38. The \_\_\_ Who Loved Me (1977)
39. City in Ohio
40. Polar explorer Mr. Rasmussen
41. Not you, in Paris
42. Dan's The Blues Brothers (1980) role
43. The Scream artist Mr. Munch



45. French composer Francis
46. Fashionable
48. Picnic nuisance
49. Montreal theatre company
53. Ms. Ortiz
54. Salutation in Israel
56. Fill the position
57. Dog breed

58. Hurt \_\_\_ by Little Anthony & The Imperials
59. Chant for Mr. Mister
60. Grand-\_\_\_ (Acadian setting of Longfellow's Evangeline)
61. Kate & \_\_\_ ('80s sitcom)

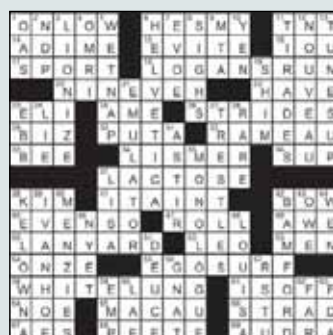
62. Hall & \_\_\_
63. "Aye."
64. The Who album: Live at \_\_\_
65. Lizard kind

#### Down

1. Positions
2. Lady and the \_\_\_ (1955)
3. Mysterious
4. Winnipeg Jets captain: 2 wds.
5. Keyboard piece
6. Bend low
7. Noisy
8. Shrewdly
9. Direct route
10. Tranquil
11. Cdn. athlete Milos

- Raonic: 2 wds.
12. The huntress Artemis unintentionally slayed him
13. Comedian-created caper
21. Dishevel
24. Cervid
28. Sort of transit
29. Popular Canadian cooking show (on which host/chef Stephen had a great sense of humour) that featured Asian cuisine: 3 wds.
30. Inquire
31. My, in French
32. Government numbers spot in the phonebook: 2 wds.
35. Also
36. Audio (abbr.)
38. Can be alphabetized, for instance
39. Mr. Alda
41. Beneath-the-street access
42. Pre-HS
44. Fief holder in the Middle Ages
46. Glad
47. Habituate to hardship
49. Cryptologist's "crackees"
50. \_\_\_-surface missile
51. An archangel
52. Ms. Witherspoon
55. Easy-going = \_\_\_-back
59. Tree of Hawaii

### Yesterday's Crossword



#### Online

See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers)



### Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

#### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

#### Yesterday's Sudoku



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